

BEWARE...THE LEVELER!

MARVEL

8

SCOTT
MESSINA
WILLIAM

STAR WARS

THE HIGH REPUBLIC



RNL
Messina

STAR WARS
TIMELINE

THE HIGH
REPUBLIC



FALL OF
THE JEDI



THE
PHANTOM
MENACE

ATTACK OF
THE CLONES

THE CLONE
WARS

REVENGE OF
THE SITH

REIGN OF
THE EMPIRE



THE
BAD BATCH

SOLO:
A STAR WARS
STORY

OBI-WAN
KENOBI

AGE OF
REBELLION



REBELS

ANDOR

ROGUE ONE:
A STAR WARS
STORY

A NEW HOPE

THE EMPIRE
STRIKES BACK

RETURN OF
THE JEDI

THE NEW
REPUBLIC



THE BOOK OF
BOBA FETT

THE
MANDALORIAN

RISE OF THE
FIRST ORDER



RESISTANCE

THE FORCE
AWAKENS

THE LAST JEDI

THE RISE OF
SKYWALKER

THE HIGH REPUBLIC

BATTLE FOR THE FORCE

CHAPTER III: DUNES OF BLOOD

The holy city of Jedha is being torn apart brick by brick. Pilgrims riot in the streets while Republic forces tackle Enforcer Droids programmed only to kill.

Jedi Vildar Mac, Padawan Matty Cathley and their Sephi associate Tey Sirrek have thrown themselves on the mercy of infamous tapbar owner and information broker Kradon Minst. Reluctantly, Kradon has agreed to shelter members of the Path of the Open Hand injured in the crossfire, meaning that Enlightenment itself has come under attack.

As they shelter in Kradon's fortified tavern, Jedi Oliviah Zeveron calls for help. Out in the desert, the ancient statue of a Jedi has come crashing to the ground, a statue that secretly contained a lost Jedi vault. The mysterious raiders who have been ransacking Jedha's temples have entered the archive, taking Jedi representative Leebon with them, but not before leaving Oliviah for dead....

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VILDAR...

OLIVIAH?
OLIVIAH, PLEASE
RESPOND.

THE DUNES OF
CONTEMPLATION.
JEDHA.

ENLIGHTENMENT
TAPBAR. JEDHA CITY.

"VILDAR. THIS
CHANGES THINGS,
RIGHT?"

WE **NEED** TO HELP
THEM, ESPECIALLY
IF WHATEVER'S
HAPPENED--

YES.
YES, YOU'RE
RIGHT.

JUST WAIT
A MINUTE. YOU
PROMISED **KRADON**
YOU'D PROTECT
ENLIGHTENMENT.

ONLY
MATTY AND I WILL
GO. **TEY** CAN LOOK
AFTER EVERYONE
HERE.

TEY SIRREK?
YOU'D LEAVE US IN
THE HANDS OF THAT
DEGENERATE?

WHERE IS
THE **SLY SEPHI**
ANYWAY?

THAT, **KRADON**,
IS AN **EXCELLENT**
QUESTION.

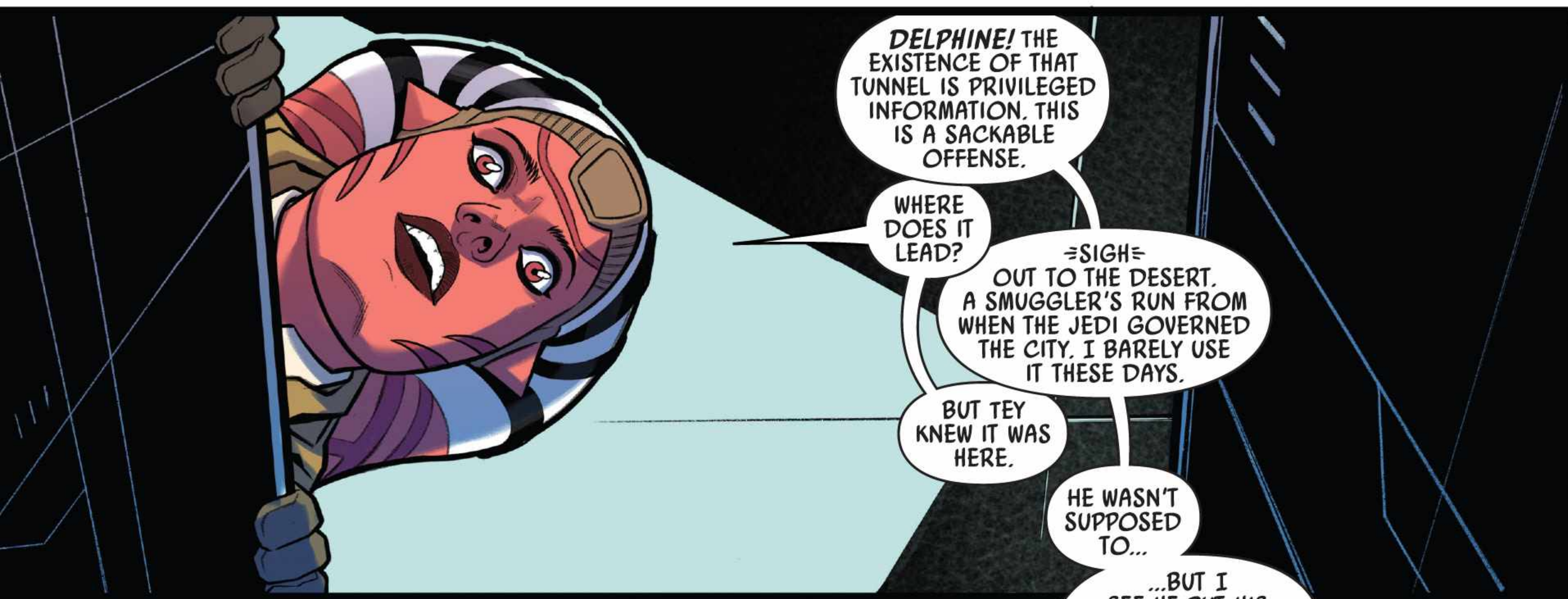
HE'S
GONE.

GONE?
GONE WHERE,
CAMILLE?

I'M
DELPHINE.

SORRY, SORRY, BUT
THE QUESTION STILL STANDS.
I THOUGHT THERE WAS NO WAY
OUT OF THE BAR ONCE **KRADON'S**
ENERGY FIELD WAS OPERATIONAL.

NO
WAY EXCEPT
THIS.



DELPHINE! THE EXISTENCE OF THAT TUNNEL IS PRIVILEGED INFORMATION. THIS IS A SACKABLE OFFENSE.

WHERE DOES IT LEAD?

≡SIGH≡
OUT TO THE DESERT. A SMUGGLER'S RUN FROM WHEN THE JEDI GOVERNED THE CITY. I BARELY USE IT THESE DAYS.

BUT TEY KNEW IT WAS HERE.

HE WASN'T SUPPOSED TO...

...BUT I SEE HE PUT HIS SCOUT DROID TO WORK WHILE WE WERE OCCUPIED, THE LITTLE SCAMP.

AND BY SCAMP, I MEAN "PILE OF STEAMING TRITHON EXCREMENT."

BEEP



SO, WE *COULD* USE THE TUNNEL TO GET THE WOUNDED OUT OF ENLIGHTENMENT?

IF YOU WANT TO RISK BEING BURIED ALIVE, THE PASSAGEWAY IS HARDLY WHAT YOU'D CALL STRUCTURALLY SOUND. AND THEN THERE'S THE VERMIN...

VERMIN? WHAT KIND OF VERMIN?

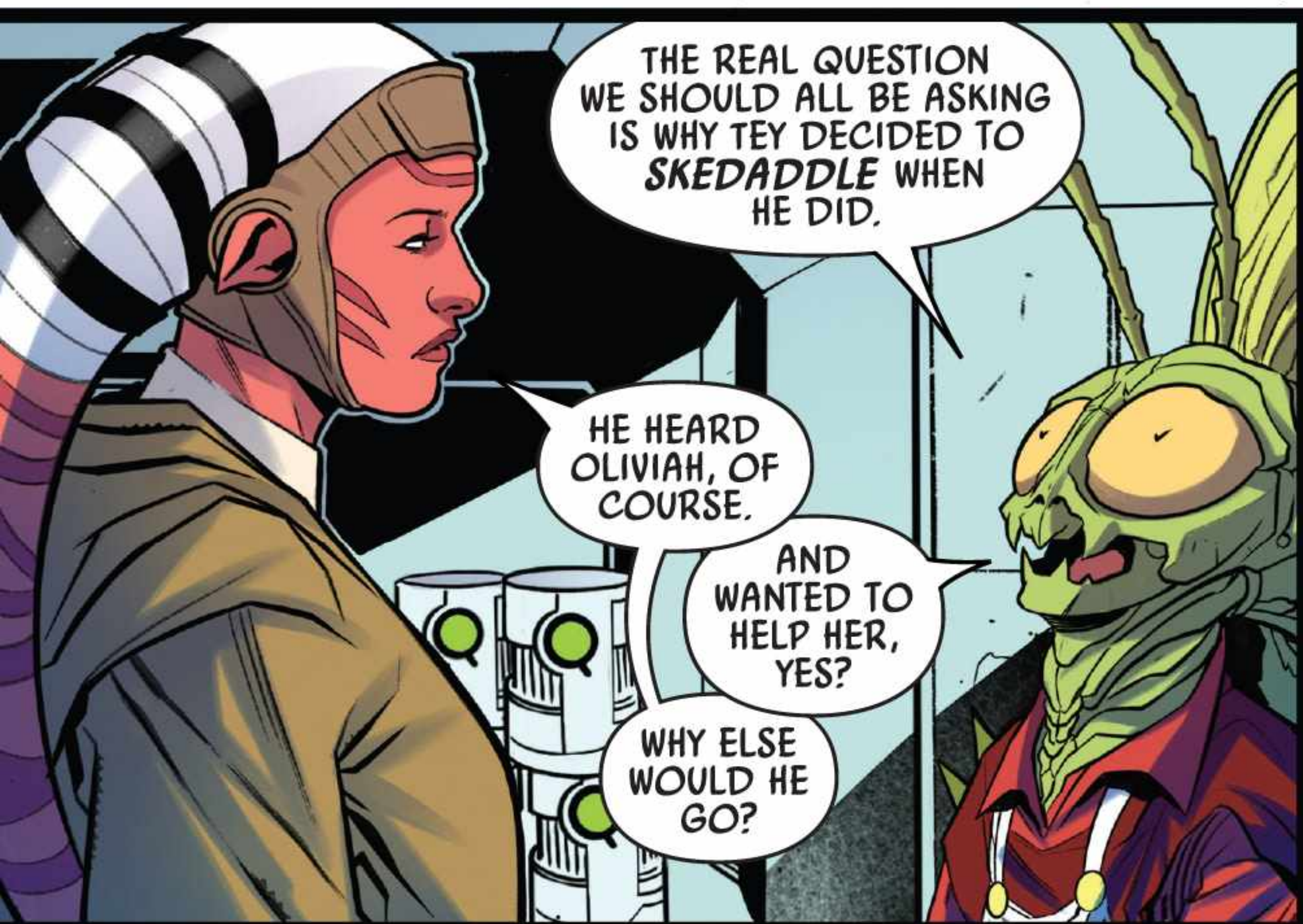


THE REAL QUESTION WE SHOULD ALL BE ASKING IS WHY TEY DECIDED TO SKEDADDLE WHEN HE DID.

HE HEARD OLIVIAH, OF COURSE.

AND WANTED TO HELP HER, YES?

WHY ELSE WOULD HE GO?



YES, WHY ELSE WOULD A *KNOWN THIEF* SLIP AWAY SECONDS AFTER LEARNING ABOUT A LOST JEDI ARCHIVE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DESERT?





"WHATEVER
COULD IT
MEAN?"

STOP
MITHERING, YOU
OVERBLOWN
BAUBLE.

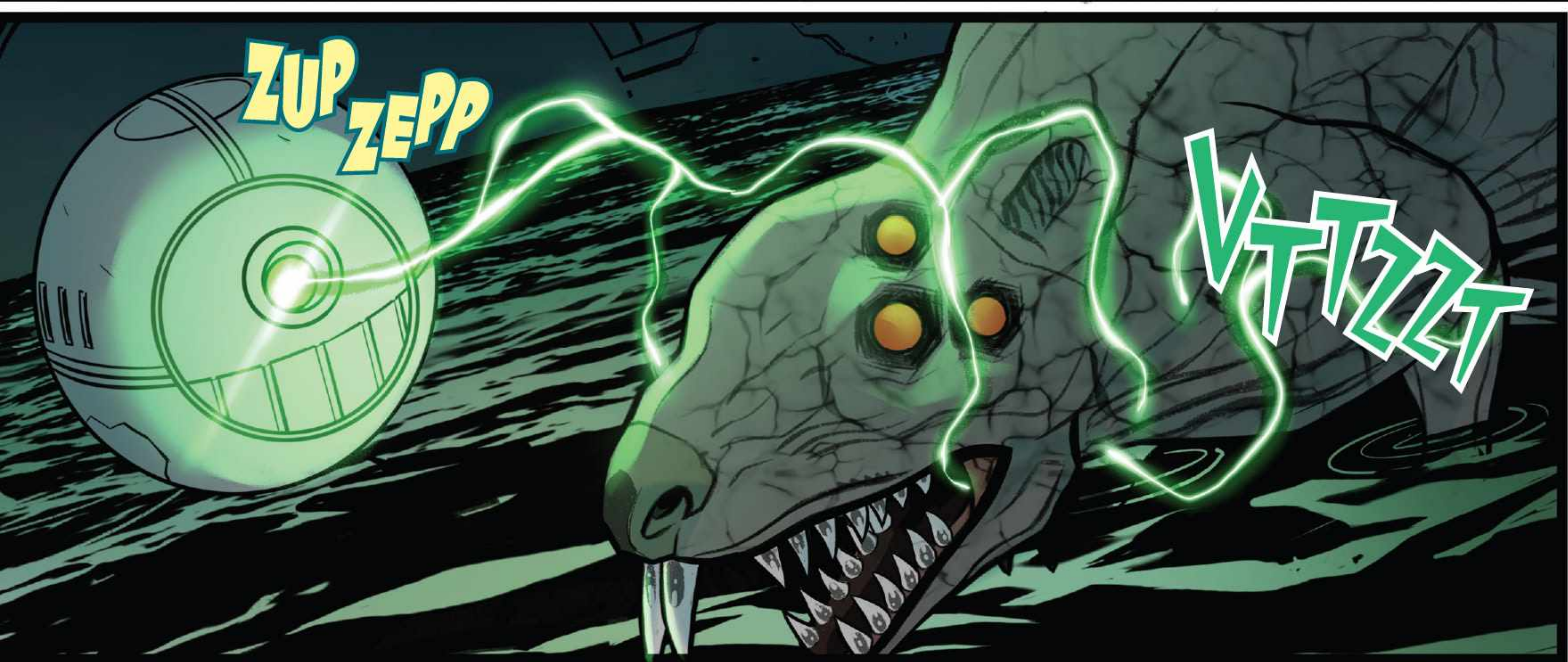
I KNOW
WHAT I'M
DOING.

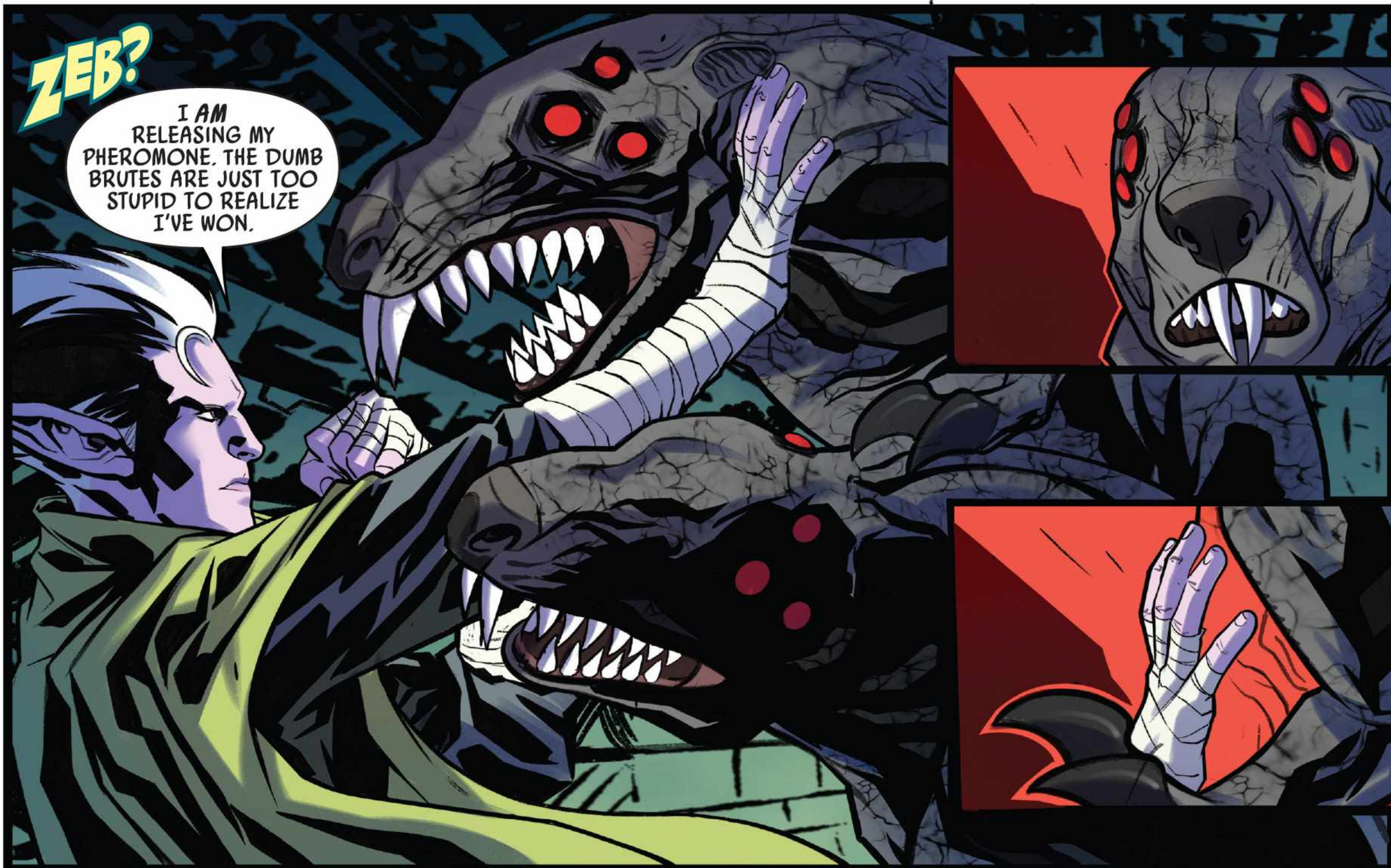


SCRITCH
SCRITCH

AT
LEAST I *HOPE*
I KNOW WHAT
I'M DOING.







ZEB?

I AM
RELEASING MY
PHEROMONE. THE DUMB
BRUTES ARE JUST TOO
STUPID TO REALIZE
I'VE WON.



THERE.
THAT'S BETTER.
ENJOY YOUR NAP,
FRIENDS.

THUDD



SKREEE!

AAH!
FORGOT ABOUT
YOU. TIME FOR
BYE-BYES.

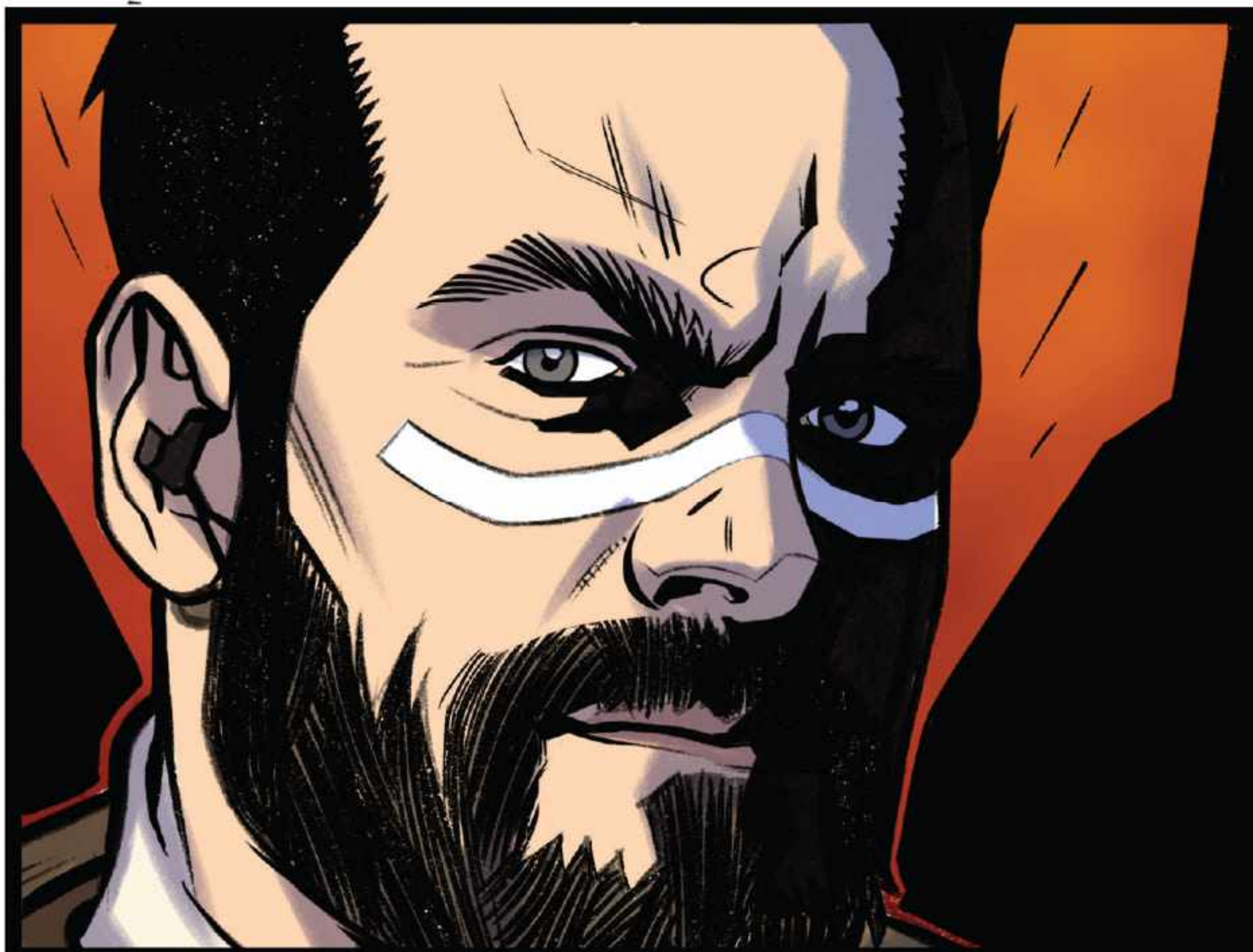
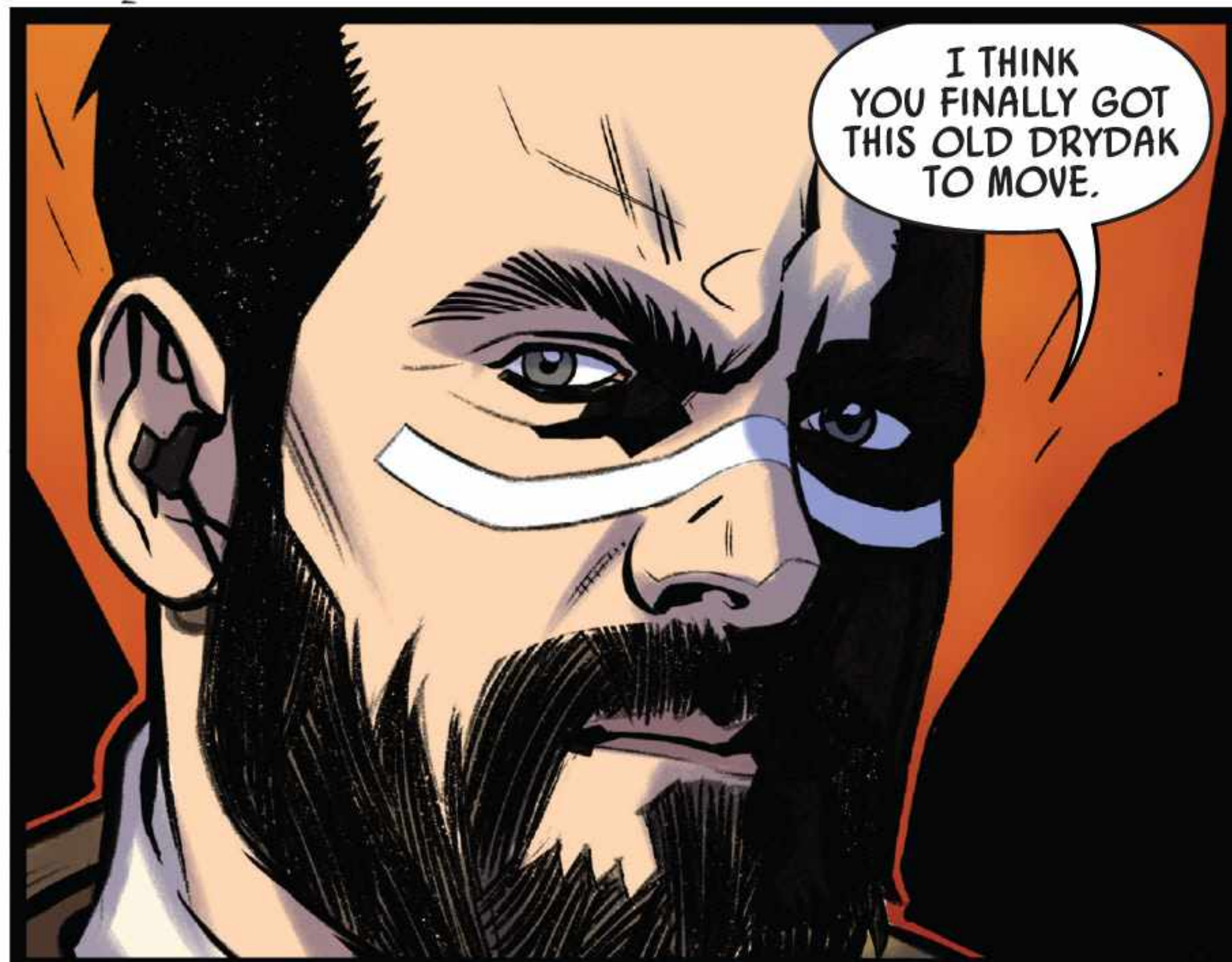


OR...NOT.
THAT'S
UNEXPECTED.



DON'T
YOU *EVER* STOP
TALKING?









COFF
COFF

YOU
OKAY?

I'M
FINE. THANKS
TO YOU.



MATTY.
MATTY, ARE YOU
THERE?



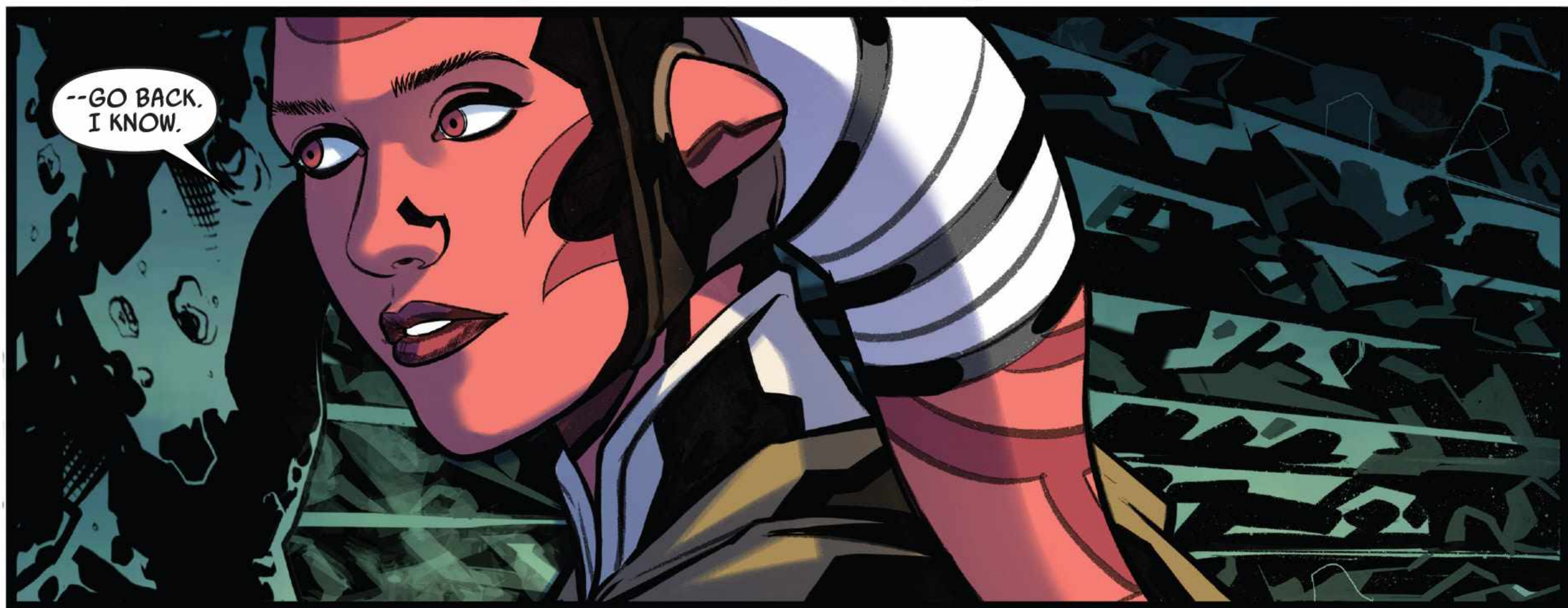
I'M HERE,
VILDAR. WE'RE...
WE'RE GOOD.



CAN'T
YOU...YOU
KNOW?

LIFT
THE RUBBLE?
NOT WITHOUT
RISKING ANOTHER
COLLAPSE.

MATTY,
YOU'RE GOING
TO HAVE TO--

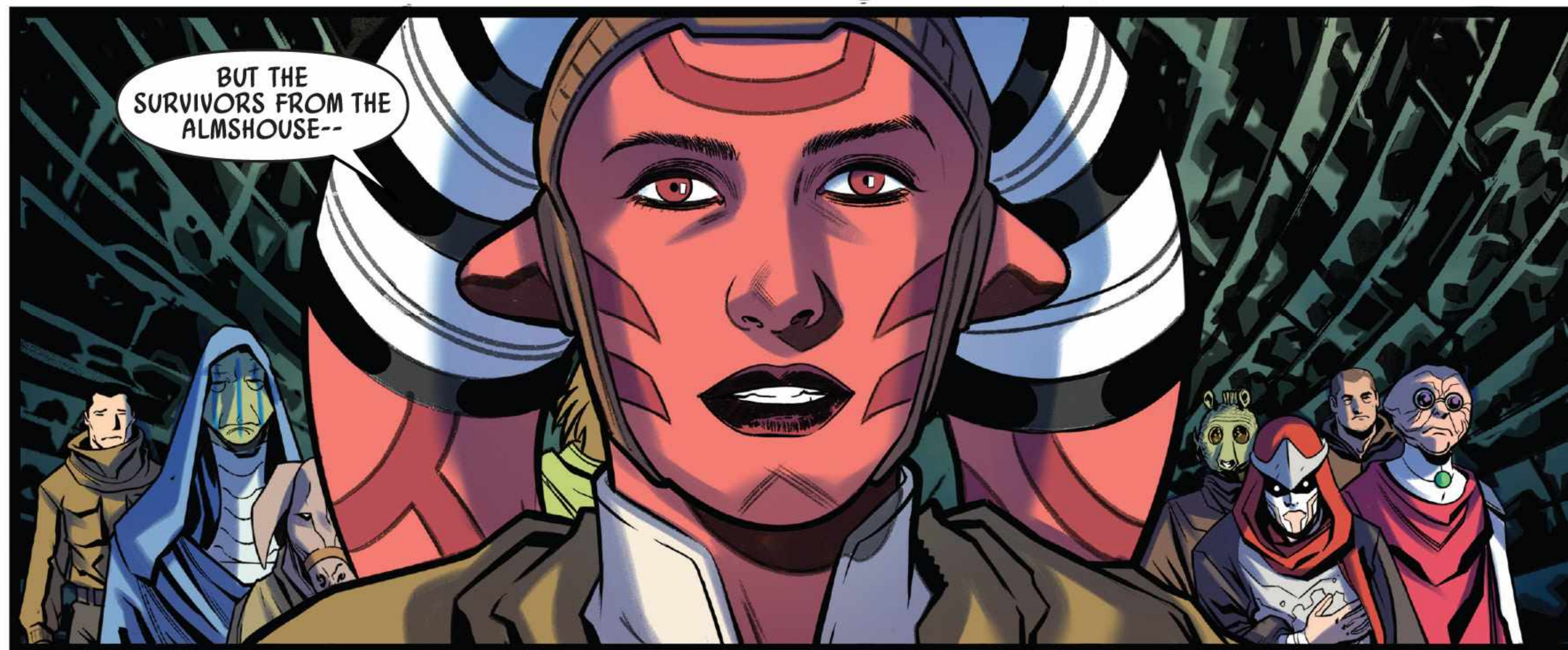


--GO BACK.
I KNOW.



EVERYTHING
HAPPENS FOR
A REASON,
MATTY.

KRADON
WON'T BE ABLE
TO HOLD THE BAR
ON HIS OWN, NOT EVEN
WITH THE TWINKLE
SISTERS. THEY
NEED YOU.



BUT THE
SURVIVORS FROM THE
ALMSHOUSE---



THEY NEED
YOU TOO...WHICH *WILL*
BE A CHALLENGE...BUT ONE
YOU WILL RISE TO, NOT JUST
BECAUSE YOU ARE STRONG
IN THE FORCE, BUT BECAUSE
YOU'RE STRONG IN *SPIRIT*.
IN YOURSELF.

YOU'VE PROVED
IT TIME AND TIME AGAIN
OVER THE LAST FEW DAYS,
AND YOU WILL PROVE
IT NOW.



THANK YOU.
YOU'RE NOT TOO
BAD YOURSELF.
FOR AN OLD
GRUMP.

HEH. I'M
WORKING ON
THAT.

AND I'M
HELPING.

THAT'S A
MATTER OF
OPINION.





NOT THE TIME, TEY.

KRIFF. SORRY. WHEN YOU'RE RIGHT, YOU'RE RIGHT.



OLIVIAH?

YOU CAME...

LEE...LEEBON IS INSIDE...INSIDE THE STATUE...

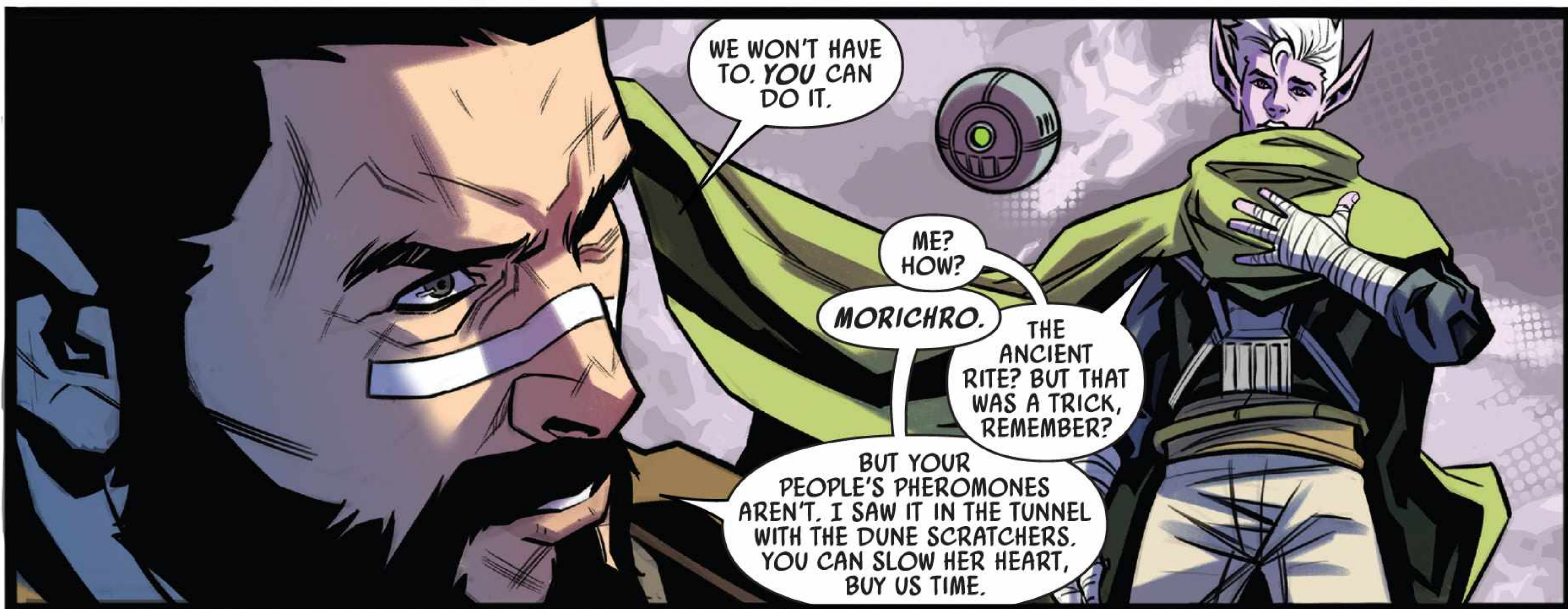
TRIED TO PUT MYSELF IN A HEALING TRANCE...BUT THE PAIN...TOO MUCH...



THAT DOESN'T MATTER. VILDAR CAN MIND-TRICK YOU TO SLEEP, RIGHT? KEEP YOU SAFE FOR THE NIGHT.

IT DOESN'T WORK LIKE THAT.

WELL, WE CAN'T LEAVE HER LIKE THIS.



WE WON'T HAVE TO. YOU CAN DO IT.

ME? HOW?

MORICHRO.

THE ANCIENT RITE? BUT THAT WAS A TRICK, REMEMBER?

BUT YOUR PEOPLE'S PHEROMONES AREN'T. I SAW IT IN THE TUNNEL WITH THE DUNE SCRATCHERS. YOU CAN SLOW HER HEART, BUY US TIME.



I COULD ALSO KILL HER. SHE'S WEAK.



WHATEVER YOU'RE GOING TO DO...DO IT FAST...LEEBON...LEEBON NEEDS YOU...







THE ROD
OF DAYBREAK.
FINALLY.

ABOUT TIME.
I NEVER WANT TO SEE
ANOTHER ARCHIVE
AGAIN.

YOU WON'T
NEED TO, NOT
NOW.

THE ROD
OF SEASONS.
GIVE IT TO
ME.

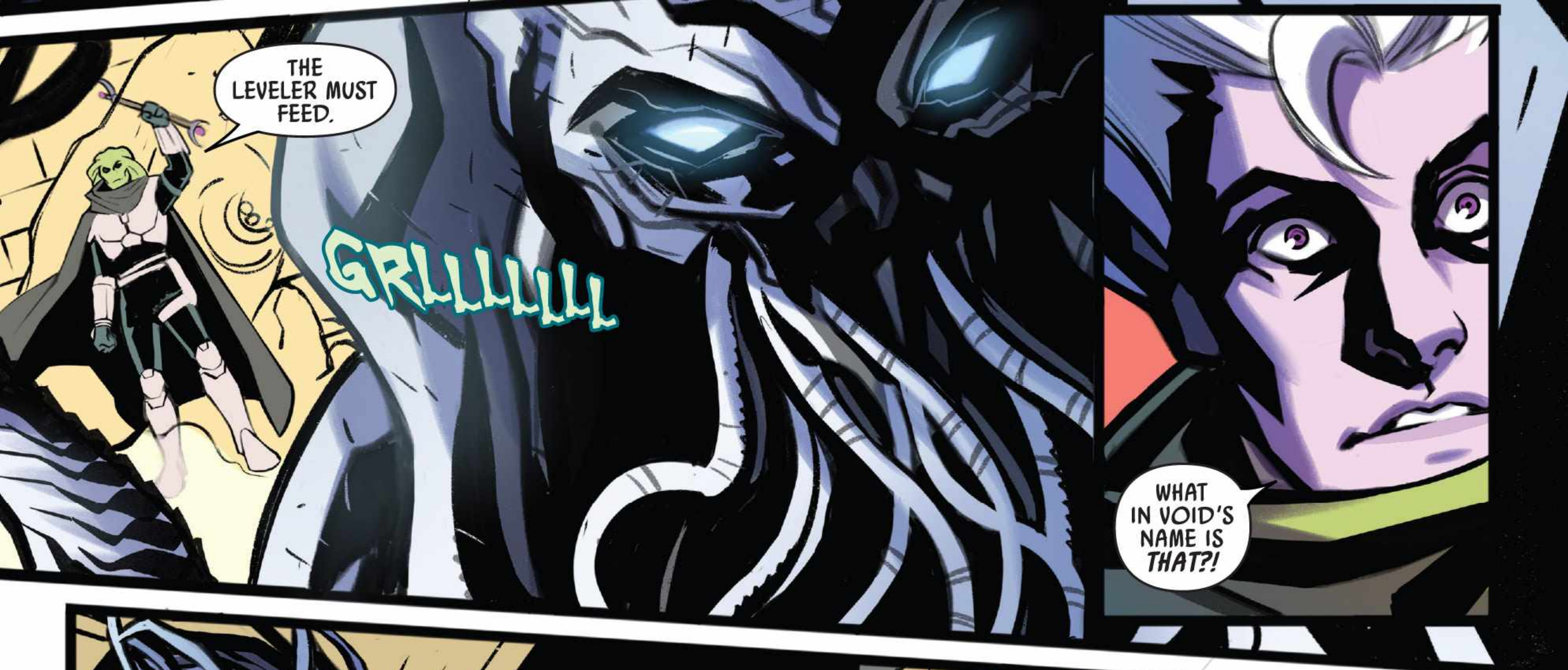


KRAKKLE

KLIK

YES. JUST
AS THE MOTHER
FORETOLD.

BUT WILL IT
WORK? WILL IT
CONTROL THE
CREATURE?

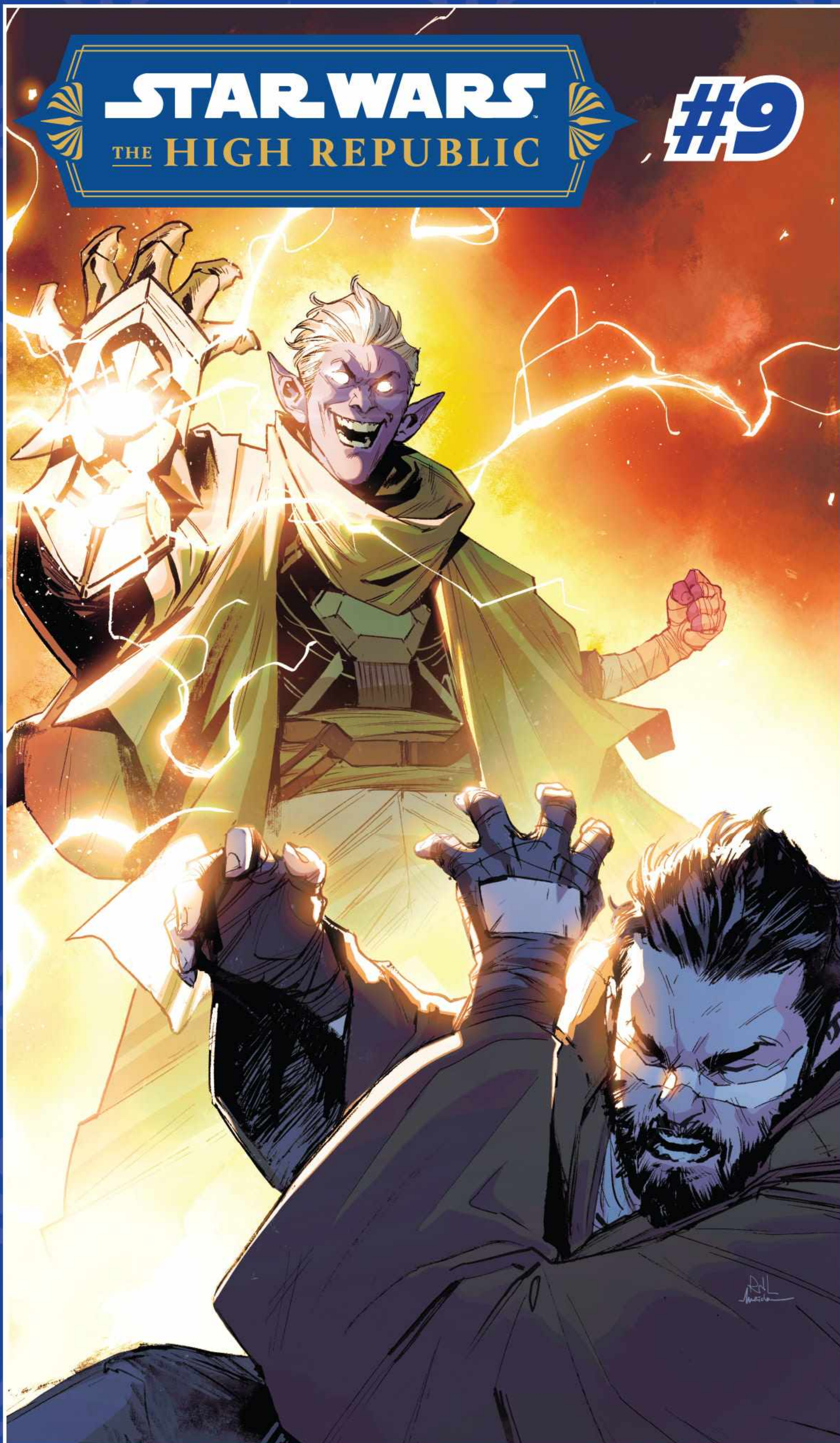


THE
FORCE WILL
BE FREE!

Rll Rll Rll
Rllllllllll

TO BE CONTINUED!

NEXT ISSUE!



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DO NOT UNDERESTIMATE THE POWER OF THE DARK SIDE!
VILDAR MAC HAS BEEN HAUNTED ALL HIS LIFE.
NOW, AS THE LEVELER IS UNLEASHED, THE JEDI KNIGHT FACES
A TERRIBLE DECISION -- RESIST THE LURE OF THE DARK SIDE OR
BECOME WHAT HE FEARS THE MOST TO SURVIVE. THE FIRST STEPS
ON A PATH OF VENGEANCE ARE TAKEN AS ENEMIES CLOSE IN.

COMING SOON

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